



**City of Santa Barbara, Fire Department**  
Fire Prevention Bureau  
925 Chapala Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 564-5702 or (805) 965-5254 (Fax) 805-564-5715

### **Film Location Fire Safety Checklist**

**Note:** The following checklist is provided for informational purposes, as a guide to the conditions that Santa Barbara City Fire Safety Officer will look for when inspecting a film location site. There is *no* SBFDD requirement that production personnel complete a daily checklist as long as the conditions are met to the satisfaction of the assigned Fire Safety Officer. The requirements derive from Title 19 of the California Code of Regulation, the 2010 California Fire Code, National Fire Protection Association codes and standards, the Santa Barbara City Municipal Code and motion picture industry guidelines. Question may be directed to the Fire Prevention Bureau or [jpoire@santabarbaraca.gov](mailto:jpoire@santabarbaraca.gov)



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<b>Location</b> _____	<b>Permit #</b> _____
<b>Dates</b> _____	<b>Production Name</b> _____
<b>Principal Contact</b> _____	<b>Ph#</b> _____

	<b>V</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>Violation / Corrected</b>		
<b>I. Access</b>		
A. Maintain existing access for fire vehicles (16' / 20')		
B. Fire hydrants, extinguishers, sprinklers & standpipe connections clear of all vehicles and equipment		
C. Production equipment not stored in access ways without SBFDD approval		
D. Production vehicle locations parked according to approved plan		
E. Vehicle drivers on site, if applicable		
NOTES:		
<b>II. Exiting</b>		
A. Existing exits kept clear to maintain the minimum exit width, including a perimeter around the set, if applicable		
B. Exits shall be illuminated at all times; emergency power when required		
C. Exits shall remain free of obstructions		
D. Exits visible and well marked; existing exit signs not blocked		
E. Exits must be kept clear of set hazards (combustibles, flammable and combustible liquids, LPG, pyrotechnics)		
F. Cables and other trip hazards secured		
NOTES:		
<b>III. Flammable &amp; Combustible Liquids and Gasses,</b>		
A. Proper storage of flammable liquids in approved portable containers (5 gallon max)		
B. Storage area secured in an approved manner		
C. LPG stored in an exterior location and protected		
D. Flammable liquids and gasses kept 25' from heat / ignition sources		
E. LPG heaters: Adequate clearance to combustibles		



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F. Rags used for paints or solvents disposed of in approved cans with tight fitting lids		
G. Proper ventilation provided in areas where paints or solvents are used		
H. Hoses and valves for gas pressure vessels: Approved type and maintained in good condition		
NOTES:		
<b>IV. Refueling vehicles / Operations</b>		
A. Refueling permit, if applicable		
B. No refueling while equipment is in operation		
C. Minimum 2A-20BC fire extinguisher		
D. Refueling conducted in an approved area 25 feet from ignition sources		
E. Bonding wire or strap permanently connected to tank vehicles and in use		
F. No Smoking signs on tank vehicle		
G. Nozzles of approved type, no lock open devices		
H. Tank vehicles equipped with emergency shutoff		
I. Tank vehicles secured in an approved location when not in use		
J. No fueling in buildings or within 15 feet of a storm drain		
NOTES:		
<b>V. Open Flame / Smoking / Ignition Sources</b>		
A. Large open flame effects under the Special Effects Permit		
B. Open flame devices used in filming to be under the supervision and control of the Property Master and / or Special Effects Operator		
C. Clearance to combustible sets, props, costumes		
D. Flammable liquid or gas equipment used for the effect in good condition, properly secured, lines and regulators listed for the fuel used. Supply not in active use kept a safe distance from the effect		
E. No concentrated dust effects in use		
F. Emergency procedures and equipment in place.		
G. Safety briefing, walk through		
H. Designated smoking areas		
I. No Smoking signs posted in all areas where smoking is prohibited		
NOTES:		



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<b>VI. Welding / Hot work</b>		
A. Welding / cutting under Sbfd Permit		
B. A pre hot work check of the area has been conducted		
C. Measures taken to prevent existing fire protection systems from accidental activation, if applicable		
D. 2A10BC fire extinguisher present		
E. Gas welding in accordance with CFC 2605. Cylinders secured and separated, hoses in good condition		
F. 30 minute minimum fire watch after hot work complete		
NOTES:		
<b>VII. Electrical / Lighting</b>		
A. Electrical permit, if required, City. Connections to a location power source by way of the electrical panel subject to review by the city Electrical Inspector		
B. Cables orderly, protected from damage, not obstructing exits or causing a trip hazard		
C. Distribution boxes clear of exits		
D. AC equipment grounded in an approved manner, back to the source.		
E. 3 foot clearance around electrical panels		
F. Generators in approved locations, grounded. Protected from unauthorized access.		
G. Generators inspected by a qualified operator, provided with a currently serviced 2A20BC fire extinguisher.		
H. Generators turned off when refueling		
I. Lighting separated from combustible materials, sprinkler heads		
NOTES:		
<b>VIII. Existing Buildings / Fire Protection Systems</b>		
A. Alteration building permit, if applicable		
B. Fire rated openings clear of obstructions, self closers operational. Rated assemblies may not be compromised except under building permit		
C. Sprinkler heads unobstructed (18")		
D. Sprinkler piping not used to secure production cables, wardrobe or equipment		
E. Risers, control valves clear		
F. Separate permit to disable fire protection system; if necessary. Fire Safety		



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Officer required. Staffed pre-connect, if necessary. Additional SBFD standby personnel / equipment , if required by permit		
G. Existing 2A-10BC Fire extinguishers unobstructed. Additional fire extinguishers as required		
H. Heat generating equipment, smoke & dust effects, fog and lighting may not be used or placed in a way that may activate existing fire protection systems.		
I. Production vehicles inside buildings under separate permit		
NOTES:		
<b>IX. Pyrotechnics / Special Effects (Title 19 Div.1 Chap.6 Article 14 CCR)</b>		
A. SBFD Special Effects Permit on Site		
B. Operators in possession of SFM Licenses, class appropriate		
C. Shot setup as described in the permit		
D. Pyrotechnic materials according to CCR Title 19 unless otherwise authorized by SBFD		
E. Storage and mixing areas separate, storage secured. Pyrotechnic material kept clear of ignition sources.		
F. Orientation / safety meeting held per 992.7 and SBFD. Emergency procedures outlined.		
G. Fire Safety Officer present if required		
H. PPE and fire protection equipment in place, if applicable		
I. Additional standby SBFD equipment / personnel, if required by permit		
<b>X. Stunts / Firearms</b>		
A. Standby emergency equipment and personnel in place.		
B. Additional SBFD resources, if applicable		
C. Escape routes clear		
D. Safety orientation meeting, stunt walk through. Additional orientation required for on set changes		
E. Weapons under the control of the property master at all times		
F. Property Master to have an Entertainment Firearms permit pursuant to Penal Code Section 12078 for blank firing weapons (not required for airsoft or similar)		
G. No live ammunition on the set or any part of the location.		
H. No firearm left unattended at any time.		
I. Loading of firearms by the Property Master or qualified individual under his / her supervision. Firearms unloaded directly after the shot.		
J. Combined Communications Center notified, if applicable		



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<b>XI. Dust and Smoke</b>		
A. Dust and smoke effects on the call sheet; FSO notified, Combined Communications Center notified if applicable		
B. Industry health & safety standards observed, MSDS available		
C. Periodic ventilation		
D. Smoke and dust may not obscure the paths of egress		
E. Dust effects: Finely ground organic or combustible material may not be used in the vicinity of ignition sources		
NOTES:		
<b>XII. Construction / Sets</b>		
A. Sets constructed 20 feet from vegetation and other combustibles		
B. Sets, scenery and production equipment may not impact the structural integrity of an existing building.		
C. Solid ceiling sets, platforms over 3 feet in buildings with existing fire protection: Additional Fire protection measures subject to the Fire Safety Officer		
D. Physical alterations to existing structures under separate permit		
E. Foam plastic decorative material must meet CFC 807.4.2.1 or 804.2		
F. Spray painting in approved, well ventilated areas, away from ignition sources and posted "No Smoking"		
G. Housekeeping: Sawdust, light combustibles cleared periodically		
H. Rags used with combustible liquids kept in non combustible containers with tight fitting lids		
I. Set decorations, curtains other readily combustible material treated flame retardant		
J. Elevated, platform work performed in a safe manner, clear of overhead obstructions		
K. 2A-10BC fire extinguisher		
NOTES:		
<b>XII. Support Vehicles</b>		
A. Parked according to plan		
B. Catering vehicles located outside of buildings		



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C. Catering vehicles: Currently serviced hood system		
D. K- type fire extinguisher		
NOTES:		
<b>XIV. Tents / Membrane Structures</b>		
A. > 400 square feet		
B. Arranged per SBFD permit, site plan, CFC Chapter 24		
C. 20 foot clearance from buildings, property lines, vehicles		
D. Treated and tagged SFM flame retardant per code		
E. 2A10BC fire extinguishers every 75 feet of travel		
F. Adequate exiting, marked and illuminated		
NOTES:		
<b>XV. High Fire Hazard Areas</b>		
A. Is the location in the Extreme Foothill, Foothill, Coastal or Coastal Interior Zone? Special conditions may apply		
B. Maintain defensible space for existing buildings		
C. Provide 20 foot clearance to combustible vegetation for temporary sets		
D. No smoking outside in wildland areas		
E. Spark arrestors required on all internal combustion engines, including off road vehicles and powered tools		
F. Tools used in or around vegetation must be non sparking		
G. Open flame devices only by permit from SBFD, subject to review by the Fire Safety Officer		
H. Squibs, sparks and similar special effects may be limited or disallowed, depending on conditions		
I. Lights and other heat sources kept clear of combustible vegetation		
NOTES:		
<b>XVI. Helicopters</b>		
A. As detailed in Section 9 of the SB Film / Video application and according to the Plan of Activity		
B. Landing of aircraft subject to permit conditions		
C. Current FAA Motion Picture and Television Operations Manual in the		



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possession of the Aerial Coordinator and the PIC		
D. Communications plan in place		
E. Safety meeting held, all personnel involved present, including Stunt Coordinator and Pyrotechnic Operator, if applicable		
F. Changes to the plan require a second safety meeting		
G. Ground Safety Contact in control in control of ground operations, only those involved in the shot allowed within 500 feet		
H. Cast and crew observe standard safe approach to the aircraft, loose items secured.		
NOTES:		

**Other Notes, Comments.**